

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /057 W
-----042372 021134Z /13

P R 021035Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3174
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY DACCA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7864

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PK, IN, US, PFOR

REF: ISLAMABAD 7724

1. NEGATIVE REACTION TO DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT IN
DELHI ON INDIA'S "LEADERSHIP" POSITION IN SOUTH ASIA
CONTINUES TO SIMMER IN PAKISTAN. JULY 31 MUSAWAAT, PPP
PARTY NEWSPAPER, CLAIMS IN COMMENTARY THAT CHRISTOPHER
MADE STATEMENT BECAUSE "WESTERN POWERS ARE PERTURBED BY
PAKISTAN'S GROWING IMPORTANCE, BECAUSE A STRONG PAKISTAN
ENDANGERS SURVIVAL OF ISRAEL." ARTICLE ENDS WITH LINE
THAT "PAKISTAN HAS BECOME FT STRONG THAT NO ONE CAN FORCE
IT TO ACCEPT INDIAN SUPREMACY." ARTICLE IN GOVERNMENT
CONTROLLED MASHRIQ SAME DAY CONTENDS CHRISTOPHER STATEMENT
"IS SHEER VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ETHICS."

2. ISSUE WAS ALSO RAISED AT END OF NYE NON-PROLIF-
ERATION DISCUSSIONS AT THE MFA JULY 30. SHAHI CLOSED
MEETING BY VOICING WHAT HE TERMED "AN APPEAL." HE SAID
THAT STATEMENTS SUCH AS THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S "RAISE
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HACKLES IN PAKISTAN." HE ADDED THAT HE WAS FORCED TO
ISSUE A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS (SEE REFTEL) TO SHOW THE
GOP DOES NOT ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE OF HEGEMONY. IF THE
US GIVES THE IMPRESSION WE SUPPORT SUCH INDIAN CONTROL,
IT WILL DAMAGE US/PAK RELATIONS. THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED
THAT IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO SUPPORT INDIAN HEGEMONY
AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT SHOULD NOT BE SO

INTERPRETED#(2#3, #-#,-2-" NOTED A NEGATIVE IMPRESSION
HAS BEEN CREATED, THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED HE WOULD REPORT
THE GOP'S CONCERN TO WASHINGTON.

3. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S STATEMENT OBVIOUSLY RANKLES
THE GOP AND STRIKES THE TRADITIONALLY SENSITIVE NERVE IN
THE PAKISTAN PSYCHE CONCERNING FEARS OF INDIAN HEGEMONY
IN THE AREA. WE WOULD PREFER TO LAY THIS ISSUE TO REST
AS QUICKLY AND QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTS
DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE THAT WE APPROACH MFA AT DIRECTOR
GENERAL LEVEL AND OFFICIALLY REITERATE POINTS MADE
INFORMALLY BY DCM IN PARA 3 REFTEL, I.E. THE DEPUTY
SECRETARY'S COMMENTS SHOULD BE VIEWED IN THE CONTEXT OF
THE OBJECTIVE REALITIES OF THE SUBCONTINENT WHICH MANDATE
A LEADING ROLE FOR INDIA IN ACHIEVING REGIONAL PEACE
AND STABILITY. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN US POLICY
TOWARD THE SUBCONTINENT AND WE CERTAINLY HAVE NO INTENTION
OF IMPLYING USG SUPPORT FOR ANY NATION HAVING HEGEMONY IN THE
REGION.
HUMMEL

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Message Attributes

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